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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

22 April 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Interagency Intelligence Working Group, ASAT Arms Control

REFERENCE: PRM/NSC-23, Coherent US Space Policy

1. In support of US planning for discussions with the Soviets, the PRM-23 study group has been tasked to address the issue of ASAT arms control. In support of this effort the PRM-23 study group requires an interagency intelligence paper by 4 May 1977 covering a number of topics falling in the following subject areas:

- Current and future Soviet ASAT activities, capabilities and policies.
- US capabilities to monitor possible ASAT arms limitations.
- Soviet reactions to certain ASAT arms limitations.

The term ASAT as used by the PRM-23 study group is a generic term that includes a variety of space intelligence techniques--interceptors, space and ground based lasers and electronic means.

2. An interagency working group is being organized under the aegis of the NIO for Strategic Programs to prepare the paper required for PRM-23. The Central Intelligence Agency has agreed to provide the Chairman and to assume primary responsibility for drafting the paper. A summary of current and future Soviet ASAT activities, capabilities and policies can be drawn largely from interagency reports already published or in preparation. The other two subject areas will require new analysis.

3. The chairman of the working group is [redacted] CIA, Office of Weapons Intelligence. A meeting of the working group is scheduled for 0930 25 April 1977, Room 7-E-62, CIA Headquarters, to discuss an outline of the paper and work schedule. Please provide the name of your representative to

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Robert R. Bowie
Deputy to the DCI for National Intelligence

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